

# Dr. Steve Abrams

FOR A+ SCHOOLS  
KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

January 24,, 2002

Attention: Renata Hesse  
U.S. Department of Justice, Antitrust Division  
601 D Street, N.W., Suite 1200  
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Ms. Hesse,

Though I am a current member of the Kansas State Board of Education, I am writing this letter personally and not as a representative of the Kansas State Board of Education.

Before you is a fair proposal for settlement of the Microsoft case. In a sincere attempt to close the door on a highly publicized legal embattlement, Microsoft offers to reveal technical information to competitors, enabling other companies to write software that actually works with Microsoft's operating products. Microsoft even offers, at its own expense, a failsafe in the form of an impartial review board which will have clearance to every facet of Microsoft's business dealings. This means software customers will have the ability to smoothly access competing software products on the same desktop, just like they are part of Microsoft Office.

Though Microsoft may surely have hoped for a solid win in this case, Bill Gates himself recently recognized that accepting the strict rules and regulations imposed by the settlement is "the right thing to do", benefitting the consumer, the tech sector and the economy. We may hate to admit it, but Gates is right again. Settlement is the right thing to do.

Thank you for your consideration of my opinions.

Sincerely,



Dr. Steve Abrams

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